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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
TO THE
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy
AT THE
ANNUAL MEETING

Held at the College Rooms in Temple Place, March 2, 1857.

WITH THE
CODE OF ETHICS
AND
LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE.

ALSO, LIST OF
Officers and Standing Committees for the Year.

BOSTON :
PRINTED BY DAVID CLAPP.
Over 184 Washington Street.
1857.

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At a meeting of the Trustees of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, held at the Rooms of the College, on Thursday, April 2d, it was

Voted—That the several committees who have made reports for publication, be requested to revise them and hand them in to the Library Committee, and that the Library Committee be instructed to have their pamphlet ready for publication and approval at the next meeting of the Board.

A true copy.

ATTEST :

CHARLES H. ATWOOD,
Secretary of Board of Trustees.

BOSTON, APRIL 2, 1857.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.

To the President, &c. of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy :

THE "Committee of Inspection," to whom was committed the subject of "The state of the Drug Trade, changes in quality, price, scarcity or supply, comparative remedial value, wants of the profession, sophistications, adulterations, remarks upon the causes of change noticed, and the remedies to be suggested for any abuses, with recommendations for improvement in the trade in respect to quality, in order to create a demand for articles of a higher grade, of more uniformity, and to ensure a constant supply," beg leave respectfully to report:—

That the subject, as presented to them in the preceding sentence by the Board of Trustees, comprises so large a field, that although feeling, as the committee do, the importance of the whole, still they beg leave to give a more general report, and to touch upon many of the subjects slightly, hoping that if the Board of Trustees of this College the coming year should, in their judgment, deem it best, other committees may be appointed, whose duties shall be to report upon some single subject enume-

rated above, any one of which, in the opinion of your committee, is deserving of extended notice, and many of which are of such vital importance as to merit the hearty attention of any member of this College.

It is to be hoped that the interest which has been shown for the past year in the matter of Pharmacy, may increase, and that, while our brethren of other cities of the union are all striving to advance the professional and moral standing of the pharmacist, *we* of Boston may not be found wanting. Feeling, as your committee do, that we have in our own members the talent sufficient to take a high stand among our pharmaceutical brethren, it is the earnest wish of your committee that the Board of Trustees the coming year may, if possible, induce the active cöoperation of our own brethren, and that if practicable some advance may be made in our College. The establishing of Lectures, Debates, and meetings for social conversation, at which the members could bring forward subjects for mutual advantage, would, in the opinion of your committee, do much towards helping on and making more general that feeling of interest in the College of Pharmacy, which the committee take pleasure in saying they consider to be very much on the increase.

Your committee would say, in relation to the "State of the Drug Trade, changes in quality, price, scarcity and supply," that in their judgment the drug trade has assumed a much better condition during the past few years, than before the matter of quality of drugs was agitated so much by the different Colleges of Pharmacy; and your committee would in this connection say that they believe the better portion of our profession are aiding the College of Pharmacy, by doing much to raise the standard as to quality of drugs, and take pleasure in saying that by very many pharmacutists the quality of drugs is now

more looked at than the price. Your committee feel that the increased care in the purchase of medicines is due in some considerable degree to the efforts made by the Colleges of Pharmacy throughout our country; but we would not in the slightest degree withhold credit from those pharmacutists who have taken this stand, and who, it must be confessed, have many things to discourage them—the want of a just appreciation by the public, the petty competition of less scrupulous neighbors, and other little annoyances; but your committee can but feel that the pharmacist who assumes this honorable position, has the consciousness of doing his duty and of doing right—no small rewards. But considered *merely* as a matter of “dollars and cents,” it is shown to be the best plan to adopt this course.

Those pharmacutists who attain to an enviable position as successful men, *owe* their success in a great degree to the reputation they establish of dealing in articles that are always of the *best* quality. Instances are not wanting, familiar to all of us, of the truth of this assertion.

Your committee have had some little conversation with the present Drug Examiner of Boston, Dr. Smith, and he has kindly offered to give some statistics relating to the quality of drugs now offered at the Custom House, as compared with those imported previous to existing laws of inspection.

It is the intention of the committee to make further reports upon the subject at some future day, at which time they hope to offer the remarks of Dr. Smith, in connection with their own.

The changes in price of drugs have been very great during the past year, in many instances owing entirely to speculative demands, in others to a real scarcity, and in others to a merely temporary want of supply. The

foreign drugs have been more frequently under the influence of the first and last named causes, but the native drugs—such as senega, serpentaria, spigelia, &c.—have been advancing, as is believed by your committee, from the second cause, a real scarcity.

Your committee would refer, in support of this theory, to a paper by William Robert Battey, of Rome, Ga., published by the American Pharmaceutical Association, in their last report, September, 1856, page 68, in which the author says:—

“For some years prior to the removal of the Cherokees west, the supply of these plants—spigelia, serpentaria, senega and panax—greatly diminished, until the trade in them almost entirely ceased, and the Indians devoted themselves more to the culture of grain, which became so abundant as to be almost worthless as an article of sale. During the time which has elapsed since their departure, the stock of medicinal plants has gradually accumulated in our forests, until as profitable business could again be done in them, had we the Indians among us as laborers.

“Our negroes cannot be depended upon for discretion and industry, while white laborers regard it as entirely beneath their notice.

“It is scarcely probable that a business will ever again be done in them, until the prices shall so far advance as to cause the avarice of our population to overcome their pride.”

It is believed that this may in some measure account for the scarcity and high prices of the indigenous roots, &c.

Your committee would thus refer to the “causes of changes noticed,” and would say that in their opinion the remedy would be found equal to the emergency, and will be the legitimate competition of business, which, in this as in all other cases, will bring the matter to its proper level.

In regard to improvement in the trade in respect to quality, your committee would recommend that the moral character of the profession should be appealed to; and conscious as we are that we now have a strong feeling in favor of more rigid care in the discharge of the pharmaceutical profession by its members throughout the land, we are led to feel that the appeals hitherto made have not been in vain. We would suggest the propriety of offering suitable inducements to the profession of our own State, to bring forward if possible some original dissertations upon subjects connected with materia medica and pharmacy, referring to the plan adopted by the American Pharmaceutical Association at the last meeting in Baltimore.

In this way some of our native talent could be brought forward; and it is the renewed opinion of your committee, that all that is needed is to offer in some way inducements for its production, and it will be found fully equal to its requirements.

It is hoped that this may be regarded with favor by the Board of Trustees the coming year.

Your committee believe that this course, while it will advance the standing and attainments of our own pharmacutists, will also do very much towards creating a demand for articles of a higher grade—making it imperative upon the wholesale dealer to purchase with more selection and care, before he can hope to suit his customer, who will demand a higher grade of quality, and who will show his *ability* to judge, and judge correctly.

Your committee would in this connection express a hope, that the recent sad occurrences in the dispensing of medicines, by which deaths have occurred, will have their due effect both upon the pharmaceutist and the public. One of the members of your committee has been shown a

record kept for the last five years, by a member of this College, of the mistakes of apothecaries and those attributed to them, that have been published in the newspapers; and, startling as the fact appears, the average is that of *one mistake* every three months. This ought not so to be. It is the earnest hope of your committee that the members of the profession throughout the land will unite to prevent, by every means in their power, these occurrences.

The public also should take warning; and as the record of these sad errors shows them to have been, in the majority of cases, committed by inexperienced and incompetent persons, the public should be more careful where they bestow their patronage, and not be unwilling to pay a fair and remunerative price for medicine.

The details of the profession, its cares and duties, and its very heavy responsibilities, should not be *forgotten* by the public; but if they wish to be protected from danger, they should give encouragement to well-educated and competent apothecaries.

Another recommendation for the "improvement of the trade" that your committee would suggest, is that of increasing the facilities for advancement to the apprentices and young men in the business; trying to have them feel that it is a *profession*, and one worthy of great effort, and that they should strive and take a high stand in it as professional men.

The lectures and social meetings, before referred to, might do much towards this. It is also suggested by your committee, that the Board of Trustees offer to those young men who may not be in business for themselves, but who are competent pharmacutists, inducements to become connected with the College of Pharmacy.

This could be done by giving them an opportunity to

present original papers upon pharmacy, or subjects connected with materia medica, in lieu of a regular examination, that their ability and competency could be judged of, and admitting them as "*passive*" members.

This would at once afford inducements to the really intelligent and competent young men to connect themselves with us, and as soon as allowable by our By-Laws, to become "*active*" members. We should in this way be continually gaining in strength and ability.

It is also desirable that young men seeking situations, should, if found worthy, receive the assistance of the members of this College, and with that object in view it is suggested that, if considered with favor by the Board of Trustees for the coming year, a bulletin be prepared upon which shall be placed the names and references of such young men as may be recommended by members of this College. It is thought that in a few years, at the farthest, this plan would make a "Recommendation" from the College of Pharmacy only second to its "Diploma."

This is suggested to the Board of Trustees for the ensuing year, as being practicable, and in the opinion of the committee advisable.

In conclusion, the committee would say, that if any suggestions they have made induce more earnest thought and action for the advancement of the profession so dear to all of us, they will have attained their object; and wishing the College prosperity, and their successors in office as pleasant a year's duties as have fallen to their lot, they very respectfully submit their Report.

DANIEL HENCHMAN,	} Committee.
CHARLES T. CARNEY,	
SAMUEL M. COLCORD,	

REPORT ON THE STATE OF PHARMACY.

To the President, &c. of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy :

THAT the science of Pharmacy has advanced with rapid strides for several years past, every one who has been practically conversant with its condition during that time will admit to be true. There can be no doubt that the improvement has been also great in regard to the character and talents of those who have entered upon the business as a profession or calling. The general advancement of the science of Chemistry has also incidentally had its effect in a great degree upon pharmacutists, in obliging them to seek information in that important branch so intimately connected with their true interests, and which tends to raise the character of the profession to a position in the estimation of the community, vastly superior to that in times past, when the stock of the apothecary was supposed to consist of "alligators stuffed," of remnants of packthread and old cakes of roses, and the proprietor was the theme of merriment for the amusement of the people in theatrical entertainments.

There has been, and is, a growing desire for general information among regular apothecaries, and the formation of colleges throughout the country is undeniable evidence of the fact.

Who can enumerate the "new remedies" which have been introduced to the notice of the public, for some of which the authors have claimed virtues not possessed by any medicines except the mythical ones of the ancients? Who can tell the number of what are technically termed "Patent Medicines," with their long array of advertisements, which, if we believe the statements of the inventors, possess almost miraculous powers? Still the ephemeral existence of these pretended "cure-alls" shows

a discrimination on the part of the community which is an indication of a healthy state of public sentiment rather than the reverse; for while they discard the worthless preparations, they retain those that possess some degree of merit. They begin to inquire where the competent dispenser of medicine is to be found, in view of the many accidents which have occurred from incautious administration, or from absolute carelessness in those in whom they have placed implicit confidence. This feeling operates to induce all connected with the business to seek admission to some institution authorized by legal enactment, as a protection and a distinction from those who are unworthy and incompetent. That "nostrums" are found in the stores of our best druggists, is undoubtedly true; but the fact may be easily accounted for, inasmuch as it is a measure for self-protection; for the druggist is a dealer in medicine as well as a compounder. It therefore behoves him to keep those goods which the public require. If he does not supply that want, his neighbor, who may be a grocer or what-not, will take his customers from his very door. He does not by this course endorse or recommend a nostrum, but simply complies with a demand of his customers as a seller of medicines, without giving any opinion as to the merits or demerits of the article. Hence the veracity of the apothecary is not called in question, for the buyer knows as well as he the origin of the nostrum through the public prints, and he cares not what the opinion of the seller may be, as he intends to take it on his own responsibility. There can be no want of conscientiousness in a transaction of this nature. In the common social interchange of sentiments among apothecaries, a prevailing one seems to be to sell such medicines on their own pretensions, without remark as to their properties, as any disparagement might tend

to create in the minds of some customers a feeling that self-interest in some degree influenced the opinion, instead of an adequate knowledge of their character.

It is a singular anomaly in the present state of medical practice, that a man who would not trust his neighbor with a dollar of his money, will trust his life and all he holds dear to the charge of the merest charlatans, who pretend to cure disease by "laying on of hands," or by immense infusions of "roots and herbs," calling themselves "Indian doctors," "Clairvoyants," "Healing Mediums," and high-sounding titles too various and ridiculous to enumerate, in preference to medical gentlemen who would furnish the treatment or cure, gathered from the experience of ages, assisted by a most liberal education, whose lives have been devoted to scientific attainments, and the development of every resource Nature provides for the "healing of the nations." It appears to be necessary that every new theory should pass the ordeal of public opinion, and perhaps after the clouds and tempest have passed the atmosphere may be purified by the agitation. The present state of pharmacy is improved in this respect, that people begin better to understand what they take, and to distinguish between what is useful and what is not. There is hope that a better general knowledge of medicine pervades the community, which is an augury of a better future. Let us have faith that after the new theories have all exploded and passed away, common sense will resume its sway, and a general intelligence and confidence take the place of the speculations and abstractions which have so long engaged the public attention.

THOMAS HOLLIS,	} <i>Committee.</i>
G. W. PARMENTER,	
C. H. ATWOOD,	

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE.

To the President, &c. of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy :

GENTLEMEN :—Your “ Committee of Reference,” to whom was assigned the consideration of the subject in its province, begs leave to offer the following Report :—

It has assumed the responsibility to divide that which was furnished for its guidance, and submitted for its treatment, into the following heads.

1st.—“ To report a plan of associated effort to ensure the individual coöperation of the members to carry out the objects of our association.”

The objects of our Association are, “ For the purpose of cultivating, improving and making known the principles of Pharmacy, its collateral branches of science, the best modes of preparing medicines and their compounds, and of giving instruction in the same by public lectures ”—“ to promote pharmaceutical education and the mutual advancement of its members.” To effect this, Harmony, that efficient reservation to efforts, should be ever borne in mind, it being the foundation upon which the superstructure of all permanent institutions must be constructed.

Courtesy among ourselves, in the every-day walks of life, and especially in the systematizing of prices, should also be practised, so that no feuds may jar our operations ; therefore we recommend to adhere to the “ Scale of Prices ” now established by the College, and to deprecate, to the last extremity, the too frequent custom of underselling that scale, and thereby cheapening our labor, which, in the end, falls with a two-fold force upon the aggressor,—adopting the principle, that a fair and honorable trade cannot but mete out its own reward. And though there may be individual cases where it is impossible to adhere strictly to its generally most excellent pre-

cepts, yet we cannot but recommend the adoption, and the most strict adherence, to the "Code of Ethics" of the "American Pharmaceutical Association."

"Associated efforts!" There is a charm in the sound of those words. Individuals, seeing the good work of the many, cannot but appreciate, and with them join hearts and hands, seemingly carrying power by its weight.

2d.—To "suggest the best means to protect the members from legal oppression."

It would seem to your committee that in a community like ours, intelligent, shrewd, and honorable, legal oppression could seldom, if ever, exist; and that the true pharmacist, whose province is so extended, and beyond every other profession so indispensable, could have meted out to him the least share of this kind of persecution. And in view of this, it would seem that the possession of a competent knowledge of his art, and a strict conformity to the established customs of a well-regulated community, would protect him from any unfairness from without. Surely, as good citizens merely, we would not wish that the unprincipled and ignorant should be screened from just punishment. No, certainly not! Therefore comes upon us the thought of how careful we should be in the admission to our profession of good and capable individuals, at the same time having an eye to ourselves, that disgrace shall not come through us, and the opportunity barred out for oppression to creep in. This knowledge of the intent to correctness, this known respectability, will create a fairness towards us on the part of legislators, juries, and dispensers of the law, a desire to do justly by the pharmacist, more so than all the legislative acts conceived of; because, against convictions of right, they cannot, in an enlightened community like ours, be maintained. An apt illustration of this is to be found in the

last inefficient act of legislation in our State in reference to temperance—so unjust towards the apothecary—an act which, known to be too harsh, too unequal in its bearing upon a respectable class of citizens, levelling them beneath the “dram-seller,” is now heeded by the community as of as much potency as the so-called “Blue Laws” of our earlier exclusives.

3d.—To suggest the best means to protect the members “from erroneous public sentiment in relation to accidents that may happen in dispensing medicines.”

Your committee would recommend that by our conduct the public be led to understand we are its friend; so that, as a brother towards a brother, it may on all occasions deal with us after a friendly manner. As good citizens, in all our every-day walks of life, to stamp our calling upon it as an indispensable addition to a well-regulated community; and to impress the public with a knowledge of its being the business that elevates, and not the individual by whom it is pursued.

To give of ourselves no countenance to any but experienced pharmacutists, knowing that a charlatan dispenser is more to be dreaded than a charlatan practitioner; for in the first there is no hope, but in the last there may be a correction of the mistakes of the first. To accidents we may always be liable, but they must be less frequent with the temperate, the enlightened, and the cautious. A dereliction from duty on the part of one member of the profession, will serve as of no harm generally, in a calling attended with so many difficulties,—an occasional error will be productive of good.

Among these difficulties, some are purely independent of ourselves. One of them is of so glaring a cast, that your committee cannot hastily pass it by, as it is a frequent cause of “erroneous public sentiment” and of “ac-

cidents that may happen in dispensing medicines." This is the indifference paid by the physician to chirography, and which no one should deprecate more than the cautious apothecary. Though there be a difficulty in interfering with the *personel* of so elevated a class, yet should we, after a modest manner, raise our voices against so pernicious a practice. Without doubt, should it be obviated, *our* situations would be less arduous, unquestionably less risk would be incurred by the public, and at least, the fact being known, we should have the public sympathy. But the intimate connection which necessarily exists between the physician and the pharmacist must be always borne in mind. Encourage this intimate fellowship. In their inaccuracies, through inadvertence or through ignorance—and we all know they do occur—let us keep them to ourselves; for their divulgence cannot be of advantage to us or to the world.

And under this head your committee cannot but commend the wise provision, in our By-laws, for a Committee of Reference, inasmuch as to its supervision is entrusted the examination and minute investigation of all seeming remissness of duty on the part of members; but we would recommend its province be made to extend to the pharmacutists generally, to report on their remissness minutely to the College; and if in its opinion advisable, governed by discretion, to be made public. These correct, unprejudiced reports, if so found by the public, would impart a confidence in it towards our profession, and serve as a check on the apothecary at large.

4th.—And to suggest the best means to protect the members from "any misunderstanding which may arise between themselves, or themselves and the public."

"A house divided against itself cannot stand;" and for a starting point towards this truism, your committee con-

ceive that we should well understand each other. "Know thyself" may be "enough for man to know" in ethics; but in physics, we hold it is as necessary to know others, that we may the better administer to their wants, and the better "to protect the members from *any* misunderstanding," be that cause from whatever source; bearing in mind the homely adage, not inappropriate to us, that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." We should, by a knowledge of each other, forestall trouble, and nip that in the bud which, if allowed to blossom, could but bring forth bad fruit.

We repeat, *associate together*, making the combined care for the College a purpose of vital importance. This banding together will create interest for good to ourselves. Each member treating the College as of his own, will eventually establish in the minds of the people, as in the other professions, a confidence, in the main, not easily shaken; hence, for our *own* safety, we would recommend, among the calling as far as they are *worthy*, a general acceptance into our ranks, and our often meeting together, that we may the better understand each other; and thereby, through these, the better to be understood and respected by the public. No profession has a wider field in which to elicit sympathy than that of the apothecary. He is everywhere, and at all times, amongst the *material*; the flights of *fancy* are not for him.

Who can say that ours is not an arduous profession! Independent of the dispensing at the counter, few even have the slightest idea of what *should be* the varied qualifications of an apothecary. A botanist, a chemist, a linguist, a mineralogist, and a naturalist;—not these alone, but expected to be, more or less, a surgeon, a physician, and a midwife, and to be in possession of all their different and conflicting theories. He is a recipient of the heart

secrets of a circle more or less extended, and these it is his bounden duty to keep bolted within his breast as securely as though that were an iron chest. Who of us has not been called to enact the part of the good Samaritan, or that of the wise Mentor? Who is there among us who has not, by his encouraging word and manner, stayed the hand of one that would soon have held the fatal suicidal cup? By small portions the damning drug could have been obtained elsewhere. Yes, it was the cool, calm, soothing word, poured into their afflicted hearts, that prevented, through persuasion, the premature death. Charity marks our every step. Charity intertwines her silken fingers in all our actions. Not alone the charity from the purse; but that which never chinks, the charity from the heart, for the outcast and the depraved.

Independent of the matter of business, these make us of one common brotherhood when fully portrayed. Their very idea must, through sympathy, rivet us together, and obtain for us the corresponding sympathy of the intelligent. This being a fact, the securing a confidence primarily among ourselves, will be a method ultimately to secure the well-deserved confidence of the public; and then permanent misunderstandings are at an end.

All of which is respectfully submitted by

T. LARKIN TURNER,	} <i>Committee.</i>
ASHEL BOYDEN,	
HENRY D. FOWLE,	

REPORT ON ROOM.

To the President, &c. of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy :

The committee to whom was referred "the present condition of the property, what is wanting to make it more available; and the best plan for making it more accessible to members," respectfully report;—

The property of the institution consists principally of cases and shelves, books, specimens of drugs, chemicals and pharmaceutical preparations, which have been contributed by members and others, and are well arranged.

Since the removal of the rooms from Phillips Place, to the more commodious quarters, now occupied by the College in connection with the medical societies, in Temple Place, new cases and shelves have been added, which render the accommodations for such purposes ample, for the present.

As a means of making the rooms more accessible to the members, your committee would suggest that a plan be adopted, whereby the College rooms may be kept open a specific time each day, for the convenience of any member who may wish to visit the rooms, to use the library, or for any other business purposes, connected with our profession.

Since our removal, many new specimens of drugs, chemicals, &c. have been contributed, and your committee would respectfully recommend to those interested, to neglect no opportunity of increasing our collections of those articles, or any thing which may be of interest, as connected with our business.

Our institution is as yet in its infancy, and the exertions of all connected with it, will be required; and we hope exercised, until it will take a stand for utility and influence second to none.

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. MELVIN,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
ROBT. R. KENT,		
HENRY W. LINCOLN,		

CODE OF ETHICS

OF THE

AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

Adopted by the Mass. College of Pharmacy.

ART. I.—As the practice of pharmacy can only become uniform by open and candid intercourse being kept up between apothecaries and druggists among themselves and each other, by the adoption of the National Pharmacopœia as a guide in the preparation of officinal medicines, by the discontinuance of secret formulæ and the practices arising from a quackish spirit, and by an encouragement of that *esprit du corps* which will prevent a resort to those disreputable practices arising out of an injurious and wicked competition ;—*Therefore*, the members of this Association agree to uphold the use of the Pharmacopœia in their practice ; to cultivate brotherly feeling among the members, and to discountenance quackery and dishonorable competition in their business.

ART. II.—As labor should have its just reward, and as the skill, knowledge and respectability required in the practice of pharmacy are great, the remuneration of the pharmacist's services should be proportioned to these, rather than to the market value of the preparations vended. The rate of charges will necessarily vary with geographical position, municipal location, and other circumstances of a permanent character, but a resort to intentional and unnecessary reduction in the rate of charges among apothecaries, with a view to gaining at the expense of their brethren, is strongly discountenanced by this Association as productive of evil results.

ART. III.—The first duty of the apothecary, after duly preparing himself for his profession, being to procure good drugs and preparations (for without these his skill and knowledge are of small avail), he frequently has to rely on the good faith of the druggist for their selection. Those druggists whose knowledge, skill and integrity enable them to conduct their business faithfully, should be encouraged, rather than those who base their claims of patronage on the cheapness of their articles solely. When, accidentally or otherwise, a deteriorated or adulterated drug or medicine is sent to the apothecary, he should invariably return it to the druggist, with a statement of its defects. What is too frequently considered as a mere error of trade on the part of the druggist, becomes a *highly culpable* act when countenanced by the apothecary; hence, when repetitions of such frauds occur, they should be exposed for the benefit of the profession. A careful but firm pursuit of this course would render well-disposed druggists more careful, and deter the fraudulently inclined from a resort to their disreputable practices.

ART. IV.—As the practice of pharmacy is quite distinct from the practice of medicine, and has been found to flourish in proportion as its practitioners have confined their attention to its requirements; and as the conduction of the business of both professions by the same individual involves pecuniary temptations which are often not compatible with a conscientious discharge of duty; we consider that the members of this Association should discountenance all such professional amalgamation; and in conducting business at the counter, should avoid prescribing for diseases when practicable, referring applicants for medical advice to the physician. We hold it as unprofessional and highly reprehensible for apothecaries to allow any per centage or commission to physicians on their prescriptions, as unjust to the public and hurtful to the independence and self-respect of both the parties concerned. We also consider that the practice of some physicians (in places where good apothecaries are numerous), of obtaining medicines at low prices from the latter, and sell-

ing them to their patients, is not only unjust and unprofessional, but deserving the censure of all high-minded medical men.

ART. V.—The important influence exerted on the practice of pharmacy by the large proportion of physicians who have resigned its duties and emoluments to the apothecary, are reasons why he should seek their favorable opinion and cultivate their friendship, by earnest endeavors to furnish their patients with pure and well-prepared medicines. As physicians are liable to commit errors in writing their prescriptions, involving serious consequences to health and reputation if permitted to leave the shop, the apothecary should always, when he deems an error has been made, consult the physician before proceeding; yet in the delay which must necessarily occur, it is his duty, when possible, to accomplish the interview without compromising the reputation of the physician. On the other hand, when apothecaries commit errors involving ill consequences, the physician, knowing the constant liability to error, should feel bound to screen them from undue censure, unless the result of a culpable negligence.

ART. VI.—As we owe a debt of gratitude to our predecessors for the research and observations which have so far advanced our scientific art, we hold that every apothecary and druggist is bound to contribute his mite toward the same fund, by noting the new ideas and phenomena which may occur in the course of his business, and publishing them, when of sufficient consequence, for the benefit of the profession.

